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**TWO MEXICAN NATIONALS SENTENCED TO PRISON  
IN LARGEST COMBINED DRUG SEIZURE AT THE EAGLE PASS PORT OF ENTRY**

**(DEL RIO, TEXAS)** Two Mexican nationals will serve 20-year Federal prison terms after being convicted on drug charges stemming from the largest combined seizure of cocaine and marijuana at the Eagle Pass Port of Entry. Yesterday afternoon, U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia sentenced 40-year-old **GUADALUPE JAVIER HERNANDEZ-TENORIO** of La Paz, Mexico, and 36-year-old **MARTIN CERVANTES-MOSCOSO** of Colonia Pantitlan, Mexico, to the prison terms and ordered that they be deported upon completion.

On October 2, 2001, a Federal jury convicted the defendants on six charges: Conspiracy to import cocaine, Conspiracy to import marijuana, Importing cocaine, Importing marijuana, Possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, and Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Testimony during the two-day trial revealed that on June 30, 2001, at approximately 5:07 a.m., the defendants entered the United States from the Republic of Mexico at the Eagle Pass Port of Entry (Bridge II), driving a commercial 1988 Dina bus bearing Mexico license plates 541RB2. Hernandez and Cervantes gave a negative declaration to the primary inspector and were subsequently referred for an intensive inspection. At secondary, Customs inspectors observed that the exterior upper rear part of the bus had "new looking" fiberglass with "new" sheet metal screws. A density measuring device was used on this upper rear part and revealed unusually dense readings. It was then observed that the interior portion of the bus had numerous air fresheners in both the sleeping compartments and the seating area. Based on these observations, the bus was sent to the VACIS (Vehicle And Cargo Inspectional System), which is actually a gamma-ray machine for large vehicles. At the VACIS machine, unknown objects were found in the upper rear part of the bus. A canine was called in and alerted to the presence of contraband in the upper rear portion of the bus. A subsequent search of the bus revealed a secret compartment in the upper rear area of the bus which contained 1,941.53 pounds (881.45 kilos) of marijuana, net weight, and 355.40 pounds (161.35 kilos) of cocaine, net weight. There were a total of 274 bundles of Marijuana. However, during processing, 160 bundles of cocaine were found inside some of the 274 bundles. The retail or street value of all the narcotics—believed to be destined for Dallas—was estimated at \$25 million.

This case was investigated by U.S. Customs agents and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel Kinnicutt.

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